

Senate Resolution 329

By: Senator Beach of the 21st

### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Professional Employer Organizations; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, insurance, including property, casualty, and health insurance, is a vital  
4 contributor to the health, well-being, and financial security of the citizens of this state; and

5 WHEREAS, Georgia has enacted a comprehensive licensing and regulatory scheme  
6 governing the offering, marketing, selling, and administering of insurance plans, including  
7 statutory requirements for the licensing and regulation of agents, administrators, and  
8 counselors; and

9 WHEREAS, these laws and regulations ensure that consumers will receive accurate and  
10 informed advice and are an essential protection for insurance consumers in this state; and

11 WHEREAS, professional employer organizations provide a service under which an employer  
12 can outsource employee management tasks, such as employee benefits, payroll, workers'  
13 compensation, recruiting, risk and safety management, and training and development; and

14 WHEREAS, professional employer organizations frequently provide packages of employee  
15 benefits, including insurance plans, to the employees of their clients; and

16 WHEREAS, thoughtful consideration of the role of professional employer organizations in  
17 the provision of insurance benefits, including an examination of the need for licensing and  
18 regulation of representatives of such organizations to engage in interaction with employees  
19 in the provision of insurance plans, may contribute to a better understanding of their proper  
20 function in delivering essential benefits to individuals and this state.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
22 GEORGIA:

23 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on  
24 Professional Employer Organizations.

25 (2) **Members and officers.**

26 (A) The committee shall be composed of six members.

27 (B) The President of the Senate shall appoint three members of the Senate as members  
28 of the committee and shall designate one of such members as cochairperson.

29 (C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint three members of the  
30 House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one of such  
31 members as cochairperson.

32 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,  
33 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or  
34 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

35 (4) **Meetings.** The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee. The  
36 committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem  
37 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform  
38 its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. No fewer than  
39 one meeting of the committee shall include public comment and testimony.

40 (5) **Allowances and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive  
41 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia  
42 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any  
43 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.  
44 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
45 appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives.

46 (6) **Report.**

47 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
48 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the  
49 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
50 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

51 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
52 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph  
53 (C) of this paragraph.

54 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
55 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.  
56 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed  
57 with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

58 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the  
59 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives copies of the  
60 minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

61 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2017.